

Serial No. 10/702,225

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A dunnage-producing system, comprising a dunnage supply having an outlet through which one or more ~~crumpled~~ strips of dunnage are supplied, a positioning device that positions in juxtaposition portions of one or more strips of dunnage, and a stapler for connecting the juxtaposed portions to hold them together.
2. (Original) A system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the dunnage supply includes a converter that is operable to convert a sheet stock material into a strip of relatively less dense dunnage.
3. (Original) A system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the positioning device juxtaposes longitudinally spaced portions of the same strip of dunnage.
4. (Original) A system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the positioning device includes a coiler operable to roll the strip of dunnage into a coil, and the stapler is operable to connect a trailing end portion of the strip of dunnage to an adjacent, next-innermost portion of the strip in the coil.
5. (Original) A system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the stapler is operable to insert at least one staple into the juxtaposed portions.
6. (Original) A system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the stapler is of a type that inserts a plastic staple.
7. (Original) A system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the stapler is configured for injecting a plastic staple having a cross-bar at one end through the strip of dunnage, the staple having a paddle at the opposite end for resisting passage through the strip of dunnage and an elongated filament interconnecting the cross-bar and the paddle.
8. (Original) A system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the stapler is operable to form a staple from at least one of the juxtaposed portions and to insert the staple into another of the juxtaposed portions to mechanically lock together the juxtaposed portions.
9. (Original) A system as set forth in claim 8, wherein the stapler is operable to form a tab in the strip of dunnage and to push the tab into the strip.

Claims 10-22 (Canceled)

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23. (New) A system as set forth in claim 9, wherein the tab has a c-shape with a hinge at one side and a width dimension parallel to the hinge that is greater than the width of the hinge.